# THE LONG AGO AND THE LATER ON

An Experience of Eighty Years of Life

CHAPTER IX.

My Political Campaign and Traveling Companions - 1880-Governor Perkins Elected - Interview with Dr. Pardee-Am Appointed Port Warden -Appointed Consul to Tien-tain-Farewell Banquet and Patti Speech.

During several political campaigns
I was invited by the state central committee of the republican party to make
political speeches in the Third congressional district, why, I don't know,
for I was never much of a politician.
However, I always accepted and have
traveled with such well known orators
as Prof. Lippet of Petaluma, George
A. Knight, Gov. Newton Booth, Gov.
Romunido Pacheo, Hon. T. G. Phelps
and Hon. J. S. McKenna, now of the
United States supreme court. The
Third congressional district is composed mostly of mining camps, and A Knight, Gow. Newton Booth, Gov. Romando Pacheo, Hon. T. G. Pheips and Hon. J. S. McKenna, now of the United States supreme court. The Third congressional district is compensed mostly of mining camps, and audiances made up of such hardy good-naturod material were most satisfactory to talk to. After the staid and serious two-hour discourse of the principal speaker was finished, I would come in with my half-hour speech. I lines what they liked in those mountain towns, not much politics but lots of fun, and the audiences always waited for me. At the close of the meetings there was a Hyely crowd of both democrats and republicans gathered at the foot of the platform steps, importaning me to yoin them and sally forth to paint the town, which artistic performance was seldom completed before time for the stage to start for the creat time for the stage to start for the reat place of meeting. Although I say the means of bringing more votes to the party by thus mingling with the miners than were the big orators, with heir two-hour speeches.

But the campaign of 1880, before I went to china, was the most glorious final my experience. My traveling companion that year was George A. Ringhth and he was a most agreeable partner to be associated with It was the most glorious final my experience. My traveling companion that year was George C. Perkins governor of the state. On the evening of the day of his inauguration the pariors of the Golden Eagle hotel at Sacrumento were seeded with geotiem of the was a most agreeable partner to be associated with It was the most governor. As is usual with me, I had been calling upon the lady spaces was ancord, something almost unheard of, But as I had a quantity of material life over from the campaign, I drew on my reserve stock and gave them another. The next day I met Dr. Pardee of Colkina, since decased. After greet.

from the campaign, I drew on my reserve stock and gave them another. The next day I met Dr. Pardee of Oakhand, since deceased. After greeting each other the doctor remarked:

"A very pleasant evening we spent last night."

iast night."
"It was, indeed," said I.
"You were very happy," said he,
"Thank you," I responded.
"I always enjoy listening to you," said the doctor, "but how in the world is it that you do it? Now, if I had said what you did last night people would have thought I was a damned fool."

The word was out before he thought, but he immediately began to apolo-gize for the expression.

"Don't make any apology," I entreated, "for that is the truest criticism I have ever heard on my speeches."

Very soon after Gov. Perkins entered upon the duties of his office he showed his appreciation of my painting the mountain terms by apolinting. ing the mountain towns by appointing me a port warden for San Francisco, and for four years I performed all the duties pertaining to that office to the antire satisfaction of the owners, captains and consignees of evry ship that came under my supervision. At

While in the discharge of my duties as port warden I was coming ashore one day from the Chlican ship, Inspector, and as I stepped on the gangpiank the rope which secured it to the rail suddenly parted, and as the plank stood an angle of about forty-five degrees, it slid out from under me like a shot from a gun, and I was dumped very suddenly and unceremoniously into the bay. As the fall was about twenty feet, and I struck the water head first, I went under quite a distance, and when I came to the surface I found I had quite a way to swim against a strong abb tide in order to get something to hold on to. In a bathing suit I could have done In a bathing suit I could have done it without an effort, but as I was fully clothed, it took some pretty hard swimming. But what was bothering me all the time was how I could get any day clothes to go home in, as I remembered that the captain was not more than half as large as I was. However, I got on deck again and was whereal into the cable while the captain while the captain and was However, I got on deck again and was ushered into the cabin, while the captain and the steward busied themselves in looking up some sort of a dry rig. Meantime, with the assistance of the captains of a half dozen other ships, who had come to the rescue, I was divesting myself of my wet clothes and not giving a thought to any subject beyond dry ones, when it was discovered that in falling I had struck my right lee sagainst the string etruck my right lee sagainst the string etruck my right leg against the string plece of the wharf, which was about midway in my flight, and there was a

piece of the wharf, which was about midway in my flight, and there was a heavy bruise from knee to ankle. The captain applied a rough and ready dressing of arnica and bandaged the imb, and I went home and to bed, for between the bruise and the shock I thought that the best place for me. I confidently expected to be as good as ever in four or five days at the utmost, though it was the concensus of family opinion that I had better see the doctor. "He came, he saw," and he ordered a course of care and treatment which kept me at home for the best part of two months.

Again I was prepared to open negotiations with men of capital or otherwise, for a situation where the emoluments would be equal to the services rendered, and it was then that the turning point came in my career. After due deliberation I wrote to Senator Miller at Washington informing him of the expiration of my term of office as port warden, and surgesting that if he knew of any vacancy at his disposal which I could fill with credit to him and honor to myself, I was ready and willing. In answer to my letter came a telegram, which read thus:

"To Geo. T. Bromiey—Sir: You are

letter came a telegram, which read thus:
"To Geo. T. Bromisy—Sir: You are appointed U. S. consul at Tien-tsin. Hope you will accept."
The message came after I had left home in the morning, and as I did not return till late in the afternoon, there was a family consultation as to whether it would be advisable to examine it and see whether it might not be of er it would be advisable to examine it and see whether it might not be of sufficient importance to send to me. With this object in view, the envelope was opened and the dispatch read. Then arose a discussion as to where under the sun Tlen-twin was located, though ovents of late years have made it as familiar as Oakland. At length it was made out, away up in the northern part of China, and my wife and family made up their minds that if I ever got so far away I would never some back. I returned at the usual hour, and found a commotion in the family circle. I inquired the cause of this unseemly perturbation in my usthis unseemly perturbation in my us-ually well-behaved household, and for answer was shown the dispatch. I we known many surprises in my life-me, good, bad and indifferent, but is one, in the language of the day,

"That's so," said Mr. Crocker, "we wil have to give a return ticket," and they did.

and they did.

The day after my return I received my note, with a message teling me to keep it, as it would be of more use to me than to the railroad company. This act of kindness on the part of the Southern Pacific company will always be gratefully remembered.

My departure for the Orient was the occasion of some notable and delightful gatherings. The Bohemisn club gave a farewell high finks at the club rooms, and as long as I live will the scenes and incidents of that evening be cherished as a precious mem-

the scenes and incidents of that evening be cherished as a precious memory. The loving words spoken and the kind wishes expressed were such as fall to the lot of few men to receive. Gen. W. H. L. Barnes delivered the farewell address, and never did he express himself so manfully. I attempted to respond, but the pent-up emotions of the evening could no ionger be restrained, and with guivering lips and eyes full of tears I stammered through a few sentences and then broke down completely, entirely overcome by my feelings. It was then I realized that silence speaks louder than words, for no words of mine could equal the language unspoken, which all present so well understood. that come under my supervision. At the order of the end of that time, the state government having undergone a change. I was superseded by a friend of the new governor and left to seek other paths of usefulness.

White in the discharge of my duties

"THUS SAITH THE OWI."

All hall Bromley! All hall, Arch High-Priest of our realm of Bohemis.
All hail, Grand Too-Whit of the noble
Order of the Ulula! Thou hast found favors in my yellow

Thou hast gained lodgment in this an-

clent heart!

I have not dimmed my love by expressing it in words—I would not waste my love in words!

Nor have I shown it by smiles; I do not smile on those I love. But thou hast not mistaken me!

t thy approach my closed eyellds, weary with the fullness of surroundweary with the fullness of surround-ing emptiness, have opened wide. At sight of thee, the eager pupils of mine eyes have dilated till they were like to burst their broad cir-cumference. In thy presence, my protruded bosom hath expanded un-til each yearning feather stood on and

nor smile was needed.
Thou camest! I poured upon thee the refreshing flood of an approving and affectionate silence. an approving

and anectonate shence, or years I have marked thee in thy daily walk; a kindly heart to whom all hearts must needs be kind; a cheerful spirit, quick to enjoy the sunshine, and to find it even among clouds; a genial soul, receivin- the young with pelasant welcome and retaining the old, because the pleasant welcome hath grown into a permanent friendship.

ant welcome hath grown into a permanent friendship.

And I have noted in thee that higher wisdom which is wise enough to stoop to folly. Thou art too wise to be forever wise!

True wisdom hath no grief! Look at me—I weep not! But the wisdom of men is sad and full of pain; is maketh the heart sick and the eyellds heavy. Therefore is such wis-

lids heavy. Therefore is such wisdom in so far unwise, for grief and death are sworn allies!

Whatever else be folly, it is surely wise to be merry, and if much wisdom banish merriment, then is such wisdom a false friend. Where now are the wise men of the ancient days?

ancient days:

I and mine hold merry feasts in their
nameless tombs.

What they thought wisdom is now
sport for children; what they deemed solemn worship is now idle mum-

shall the jest of today become earn-est jest, and the one be mistaken for the other.

the other.

Therefore, have I looked on with pleasure when thou hast led the revels of my Bohemian children. Thy unctuous voice hath always inspired their mirth: thy jovial face hath ever inflamed their laughter.

I have seen thee as High-Priest, guiding the young neophyte to the Bohemian altar, and leading his soul upward with uttered precept as never neophyte heard before. I have listened when with strenuous voice thou hast brought in hoarse carols from the briny deep.

thou hast brought in hoarse carols from the briny deep.

Often, for very sport, thou wouldst load up most grave and serious words with an unaccustomed freight of meaning, and then, ahon, wouldst dress some solemn thought in such gay and frivolous garb of language, that men mistook it for wanton. Many the quips and jests which I have heard form thee, but I have noted that there never was malice behind thy humor, and never sting to mar the honey of thy wit.

And now, O best beloved of the Owl, the time draws near when we must part.

"took the cake," and when the family realized that I knew no more about the proposition than they did, they mean the proposition than they did, they mean they are to say "Earswell." years to say "Earswell." to the large to the say of the say to the say of the say to the

do it.

"All right," said I, "but how am I to get there?" for, with the necessary outlay for my lengthy journey, tickets for the grand opera at Patti prices were set down amongst the unnecessary luxuries. But that contingency had been provided for, and instead of being out the price of a seat, I was told that I was to be put on exhibition in a box. So I repaired to the club library and began to concort a speech. I rung the changes on that bracelet in every way that I could conceive of, and when I read over my production I decided that it would do, but that it was well worth the price

conceive of, and when I read over my production I decided that it would do, but that it was well worth the price of an opera ticket to do it. The next day I met Madame Fabbri in the California Market and said she:

"Oh. Mr. Bromley, I am so glad to have met you. I was just about sending for you."

"Now, what's up?" I asked.

"We have concluded not to present Madame with a bracelet."

If was then I falt all my bright anticipations, "like the baseless fabric of a vision," vanish into thin air. "But," went on Madame Fabbri, "we are going to have you present a loving cup instead."

"All right," said I; "it's a loving cup year."

carand Opera house contained such a vast audience as on that Saturday afternoon. But soon afterward Madame Fabbri made her appearance and invited me to accompany her to the vestibule, where there was standing the most beautiful floral piece I have ever seen. It was about six feet high ever seen. It was about six feet high and on horizontal arms were lettered in the lovellest blossoms, the names of all the operas in which Madame Patti had sung during the season. I gazed upon it with feelings of admiration, when Madame Fabbri remembed.

marked:
"This also is to be presented with the loving cup and the album."
"Ah, it is?" said I. "Is there anything else?"
"No," said she; "that is all."
I saw in a moment how charmingly the flowers would blend with the music in my speech, and I returned to my seat in the box and listened to the world's sweetest singer. Just before Madame Patti's last song, I went behind the scenes and there I met Madame Fabbri holding a laurel wreath, and it was:

and it was:

"Mr. Bromley, when you get through
with Patti we want you to make a
little speech and crown Arditi with
this wreath."

"Now, who the deuce is Arditi?" it

was my turn to ask.
"Why, the leader of the orchestra,"
said Madame.

sald Madame.

"Anything more to come?" asked I.

"No. nothing more." And so it proved that time.

The floral piece was too penderous to be passed over the footlights so it was taken around to the stage entrance and brought on the stage from the side. It was when Madame Patti appeared in response to an encore for her last song that I appeared on the scene, followed by three of the company, two bearing the casket containing the loving cup and one the album. The applause that greeted Madame Patti was tumultuous, and as I was on speaking terms with more of the sudispeaking terms with more of the audi-ence than was the diva, the ovation was somewhat increased. Madame Patti was just then absorbed in ad-Patti was just then absorbed in admiring the beautiful floral offering, and I shall never forget the expression of her face when she turned and saw me. Had I been a freebooter demanding her jewels or her life she could not have appeared more astonished. However, I began my speech, and the stiliness of the house, after the former outburst, was most impressive. Madame Patti manifested a deep interest in what I was saying. Her lips quivered, and her eves filled with tears, so that I was beginning to grow a little feased myself. At the clove of my performance I was taken to Madame Patti's dressing room and introduced to her and Nicolini. Both greeted me heartily and kindly, not with perfunctory officialness, which seems to become the manner of those who are so much in the public eve. This may now seem to be a somewhat elaborate account of an occasion long nost but it was a greet event. elaborate account of an occasion long past, but it was a great event in its day, and particularly so to me, since I was so soon to bid my own farewell to the familiar surroundings of San Presented.

CHAPTER X.

Off for the Orient-Yokohama and an Eel Dinner - Shanghai-Nagasaki.

The day of my departure for China is one that I can never forget, for never before had there been so many men, women and children on the Pacific Mail dock to see one man off as there were to say farewell to me. No

Yokohama made a pleasing first impression on me. As the passengers were leaving the ship, the proprietor of the principal hotel came to me and solicited the honor of my patronage. I assured him that the honor was his, and he accompanied me ashore.

After getting my belongings through the custom house, we passed out upon the street, and the first sight which met my wandering gaze was an astonishing array of what I supposed were baby carriages, and my first thought was that all the women in Yokohama were out giving their children an airing. When the hotel man invited me to get in, I felt my dignity seriously compromised. seriously compromised.
"Get in!" said I. "What do you

"Why," said he, "this is the way we ride in Japan."
So I got in, and as we rode down the bund to the hotel I felt about as small as they make 'em. The vehicle was, of course, a jinriksha, and such an agreeable and comfortable means of transportation that I learned to of transportation that I learned to make use of it whenever circumstances permitted.

when at the hotel I noticed on the bill of fare, "fried cels." Now, if there was one thing above all others that I was fond of in my boyhood days, and in my maturer years, it was fried eels, and I had not insted one since leaving my New England home, so I ordered fried eels, and I didn't order anything else, for they were simply delicious. Being at the home of Captain Center that searches I made explain.

"But," went on Madame Fabbri, "we less, for they were simply delicious, are going to have you present a loving cup instead."
"All right," said I; "It's a loving cup year,"
I then prepared a speech for a loving cup instead of a bracelet. When I was satisfied with it, I committed it to memory, and was on hand at the Grand Opra house in good time on the appointed day, but I could not see the ghost of a show to gain entrance, for the street was crowded for almost the gentire block with laddes and gentlemen. However, I met Mr. Joseph Austin, who knew pretty much all about everything, and he took me up an alleyway to the stage door, where I found easy access and was soon seated in the De Young box. As I sat there alone, contemplating the gathering multitude, Madame Fabbri came in, and said she:

"Mr. Bromley, there is a magnificently bound album containing the names of those who presented the loving cup, and they would be pleased to have you include this in your presentation speech."

"All right," said I, and I soon had it included and resumed my observations. Never, before or since, has the Grand Opera house containing the names of those who presented the loving cup, and they would be pleased to have you include this in your presentation speech."

"All right," said I, and I soon had it included and resumed my observations. Never, before or since, has the Grand Opera house contained such a vast audience as on that Saturday afternoon. But soon afterward Madame to the contained the contained such a vast audience as on that Saturday afternoon. But soon afterward Madame to the contained the contained such a vast audience as on that Saturday afternoon. But soon afterward Madame to the contained the contained such a vast audience as on that Saturday afternoon. But soon afterward Madame to the contained the contained the contained such a vast audience as on that Saturday afternoon. But soon afterward Madame to the contained the contained the contained the contained such a vast audience as on that Saturday afternoon and the the eel cleaned, cut in two and passed over to another Jap, who put about four skewers into each piece, when they were ready for brolling. The man at the charcoal furnace, which is about three feet long with crossbars running lengthwise, then takes them, dips them into a little keg of soy which stands at one end, and lays them on the broiling irons. He stands over them with a fan constantly fanning the coals, turning the cels, and occasionally dipping

ing the eels and occasionally dipping them in the soy.

After witnessing the transformation scene from the tank to the griddle, we were ushered to a room on the next floor of the building which was without a particle of furniture of any kind. Here we reclined on the clean, soft matting, drinking saki until our eels arrived. There were served by a lovely Japanese maiden, who brought them in a little chest of drawers, each drawer containing a wooden plate of eels. We had brought our own bread as er containing a wooden plate of eels. We had brought our own bread, as the only articles of refreshment in a Japanese eel house are fried eels and saki. I have never in my life tasted anything of the fish kind that would begin to compare with those sels. Captain Center and I at three aplece and the leader are the colors. and the ladles are the other five. The only thing that we are with them was boiled rice served in bowls, which was

I have given this description at some length for the reason that in none of the works on Japan which I have ever read has there been any mention made of the eel houses, and I wish my readers to know that should they ever travel in that country there is a real treat awalting them. Unless things have changed greatly since my time, it will be necessary, however, to furnish

it will be necessary, nowever, to lurish bread and whatever else may be desired as concomitants to the feast. I met many congenial people while in Yokohama. Gen. Van Buren was very good to me during my stay and I was indebted to him for many pleas-

ant experiences.

After a pleasant stay of three weeks in Yokohama, I left for Shanghai, touching at Nagasaki, where we remained two days and while there Gen. Jones, the United States consul, gave me a complimentary dinner, to which were invited all the diplemats and high officials at Nagasaki. The dinner was given at a Japanese restaurant, but on the European plan, and the waiters were Japanese maidens, quick and attentive. The geishas furnished exquisite music during the repast, and the whole affair was so new to me that I could not but rejoice both at the attention to me and the novelty of it.

of it.

On the following day I started out to call on those who had attended the dinner. At the residence of the Chinese consul I met his secretary, and discovered that he spoke excellent English. I inquired where he had been educated, and you may judge of my surprise when he told it was in Norwich, Connecticut, my own native town. He called over several names familiar to me in my boyhood that I had not heard for thirty years and you may rest assured that I made no more calls, but sat and reveled in a regular heart talk with that Chinese secretary until it was time for me to board ship. heart talk with that Chinese secretary until it was time for me to board ship. I arrived in time to witness the oneration of coaling, which was done by hand, men, women and children packing the coal baskets on their backs from barge to bunkers. It was a sight well worth seeing such a laborious task performed by such tiny people, and yet, they were all chatting and laughing as though it were a holiday amusement which they were all enjoying to the foll.

When the coaling was completed we left Nagasaki for Shanghai, where we

rrived about nine in the evening. It By George Tisdale Bromley

arrived about nine in the evening. It was a beautiful evening so, after registering at the hotel I chartered a Jinriksha and wandered over the city. I had never heard much about Shanghai, and consequently I was both surprised and delighted to find it a city of magnificent public buildings, private residences, with streets brilliantly illuminated by incandescent lights, all of which served to make my first impressions of China most agreeable. But the contrast between the foreign settlement and the native city of Shanghai is simply astonishing. The streets are so narrow that the jinrikshas cannot pass each other on any of them, consequently none are allowed within the gates of the city. The filth is something awful and the horrid smells are sickening, yet the city is well worth a visit. For, with all its disgusting sights and smells there are various attractions that amply reward the visitor for all the discomforts encountered. You will see in the windows of the shoos Chinese women yarious attractions that amply reward the visitor for all the discomforts encountered. You will see in the windows of the shops Chinese women working the most delicate and exquisite embroidery, and next door, a dirty blacksmith shop. There are seen the beautiful and the disgusting in close proximity. In the little open squares about the city one can witness all sorts of performances, Chinese juggiers, rope dancers, and gymnastic feats. I saw one Chinese woman on, a raised platform lying on her back with her feet reised in the air. A ten foot ladder was raised upon her feet and a little Chinese boy ascended it, climbing in and out of the rounds until he reached the top, where he sat and waved his little cap to the standing sudience. When our party came to the show the manager cleared an open space for us to enter through the crowd, knowing that he would gather in silver instead of the Chinese cash, ten to a cent, which he had been receiving from his previous andience. ten to a cent, which he had been re-ceiving from his previous audience.

I spent several very pleasant days in Shanghel and made a number of agreeable acquaintances there before I took my departure for Tien-tain, the field of my labors as United States consul.

consul.

It was on the boat from Shanghai to Tien-tsin that I had my first touch of seasickness since my introduction to the sea when a boy. When the ship got out into the open water with a strong head wind and a short ugly sea the steamer being a short one, began to make things quite uncomfortable. In about half an hour my breakfast had departed in two installments.—I had eaten an unusually hearty one, being hungry. I was sick. I went to my stateroom, lay down on the lounge, and did not move again until the evening, when I tumbled into my berth with my clothes on and lay there quietly until ten the next foremon, without taking a morsel of food or drink of any kind. I was just about as wretched as they make them, my only consolation being that my fellow passengers were a great deal sicker than I was.

We passed the Taku forts, coming through where the Chinese anchor their torpedoes. The first we knew we were right in the midst of them. Each torpedo had a float attached to it about the size of a barrel head, and as it was painted the color of the water it was not easy to detect it in time to avoid running over it. But

water it was not easy to detect it in time to avoid running over it. But we got through all right. There is no

current, and then, round went the lighter and back it came, alongside the ship, and this manoeuvre was gone through with in precisely the same three times, each time letting go snchor, so as not to come hard against the side of the ship. All this while they were trying to get over to the other side of the river, and they could have done it in five minutes, if they had known how. There were about twenty-five Chinamen on the lighter, and when they commenced the exercises they would have a lively song with everything they were doing, but along towards twelve o'clock they had lost all their bilarity, and the rattling of the anchor chain was all the sound we heard. We watched and laughed anchor, so as not to come hard against of the anchor chain was all the sound we heard. We watched and laughed till about midnight, and as by that time they had made a long distance up the river in the eddy, we went to bed. But I had not got to aleep before down they came again and let go the anchor opposite my stateroom window, and in the morning the lighter was hanging on to the stern of the ship waiting for the tug, while the poor, tired out and disgusted Chinamen were lying all around the deck fast asleep.

(Continued Saturday May 29.) (Continued Saturday, May 29.)

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